Mason Woman Sentenced to Prison for Scalding Two-Year Old

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell announced that Lashawnda Walters, 51, of Mason was sentenced to an indefinite term in prison of seven to 10 ½ years by Judge Robert Peeler. Walters previously entered a guilty plea to endangering children (F2) and tampering with evidence (F3).

The offenses occurred on March 30, 2023. On that date, the two-year-old female victim was living with her grandmother, Lashawnda Walters. On the morning of March 30, 2023, the toddler had an accident and soiled her diaper. In response to the accident, Walters assaulted the girl and placed her in a bath with water temperatures reaching up to 126 degrees Fahrenheit. As a result of being forced into the water, the girl suffered second and third degree burns to over 17% of her body, including her feet, calves, thighs, buttocks, and vaginal area. More than five hours passed before the girl was taken to Cincinnati Children's Hospital – Liberty Campus, where she was examined and then transported to Shriners Children's Ohio in Cincinnati, where she underwent numerous procedures and ultimately required a surgical skin graft to replace the damaged skin.

Inside Walters' home were surveillance cameras that captured the events leading up to this incident. While the police were executing a search warrant at Walters' home, Walters was actively deleting videos from earlier in the day in an effort to prevent law enforcement from obtaining video evidence regarding her actions.

"My heart goes out not only to this little girl, but to everyone involved in this case who had to view the photographs of the horrific injuries Walters caused to that precious child," said Fornshell.

Fornshell commended Detective Casey Behymer from the Mason Police Department, Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Steve Knippen and Julie Kraft, Victim Witness Coordinator Erika Bourelle, and Director of Technology Jaclyn Zaczek and Deputy Office Administrator Mackenzie Stotts for their work on the case.



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